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# WBB celebrates Senior Day



Lauren Jensen (left), Brooke Littrell (middle) and Molly Mogensen (right) celebrate Senior Day surrounded by teammates, friends and family.

## LUKE HARDY, ALLY SEEVERS Sports Writer, Sports Editor

With a four-game win streak under their belts, the then-No. 24 Creighton Bluejays women's basketball team added another to the win column as they celebrated Senior Day with a decisive 70-48 victory over the Georgetown Hoyas at D.J. Sokol Arena on Feb. 15.

The win not only extended Creighton's

streak but provided a fitting tribute to the team's seniors, whose contributions have been instrumental throughout the season and their career.

The atmosphere in D.J. Sokol Arena was electric, as fans gathered to honor the seniors who dedicated their collegiate careers to the Bluejays.

The senior class includes Sydney Golladay, Jayme Horan, Mallory Brake, Lauren Jensen,

Molly Mogensen, Morgan Maly and Brooke Littrell.

Each senior was recognized in a post-game ceremony, highlighting their achievements and contributions to the program. Emotions ran high as players embraced their families and coaching staff, reflecting on their journeys and the legacy they leave behind.

The matchup began with Georgetown taking an early lead, finishing the first quarter ahead 13-11. Neither team was able to find a rhythm offensively in the opening frame, shooting a combined 10-28 from the field.

However, Creighton quickly adjusted, opening the second quarter with an 11-5 run, powered by nine points from Maly. By halftime, the Bluejays had secured a 31-25 advantage.

"You just got to keep believing that they're going to go in," freshman Allison Heathcock said.

The third quarter proved pivotal, as Creighton outscored the Hoyas 26-9, effectively putting the game out of reach. The team scored seven unanswered points to begin the second half, leaving Georgetown reeling.

"We started the third quarter similarly to the way we started it at Georgetown," Head Coach Jim Flanery said. "We went 7-0 right out of the break, and I think that really kind of relaxed us."

With 2:24 remaining in the game, Brake, **TURN TO "Bluejays" PAGE 8**

# Creighton Hall under renovation

ELIZABETH JONES Editor in Chief

Creighton Hall will remain under construction until the spring of next year, leaving three entrances into the building and the south wing closed.

The main entrance facing the Brandeis Courtyard, the entrance on the building's southwest corner nearest to the fountain and the southeast entrance near the flagpole are all closed. A sign in front of the building's main entrance points in the direction of the three entrances still in use.

Creighton Hall was built in 1877 and is the oldest building on campus. The building hasn't had a large renovation in over 90 years, according to an article on Creighton's Alumni and Friends website.

The renovations, which will focus on Creighton Hall's south wing, include adding family restrooms and restrooms that meet current American with Disabilities Act standards; new mechanical systems throughout the entire building, such as a heating and cooling system and water and sewer infrastructure; more fire suppression; an area for the university's alumni and friends; consolidating some administrative offices on the building's south end to allow for future classroom's on the building's north end; and replacing the "golden elevator" (the elevator closest to the main entrance).

"This is more than just paint and carpet. This is significant mechanical modifications," Derek Scott, the university's associate vice president for facilities management, said.

One goal of the renovation is to maintain the building's historic charm.

"[We'll] have good quality fixtures and things in there, but when you walk in, it's correct to the period [it was built in]," Scott said. "It's kind of nice to keep some [historic feel], especially on our namesake building."

Because the renovations are all to the building's interior, the rocking chairs will still be able to return to the Creighton Hall patio later this spring.



NATHAN JOBALIA/THE CREIGHTONIAN  
**Three entry points, including the main entrance of Creighton Hall are closed until 2026.**



ALLY SEEVERS/THE CREIGHTONIAN  
**Jayme Horan celebrates a three-pointer to add to Creighton's Senior Day home game success.**



# Students share rich Hawaiian culture

ELIZABETH GRAVELINE  
Assistant News Editor

Hui 'O Hawai'i hosted an afternoon of celebration of Hawaiian culture. Students were invited to participate in ancient Hawaiian cultural games and crafts to celebrate and educate participants about Makahiki, an ancient harvest festival.

In pre-colonial Hawai'i, Makahiki season lasted for months, celebrating the new year and a successful growing season with rest,

dancing, feasting and athletic competitions. Today, people in Hawai'i celebrate with music, food and sporting events.

Last weekend, Creighton students had the opportunity to experience Makahiki on the mainland with games such as Moa Pahe'e, which involves sliding large darts through stakes in the ground; Konane, a Hawaiian version of checkers; and Uma, an arm-wrestling match with both players laying on the ground. There were also cultural crafts available to try, including 'Ohe Kapala, a form of

print making, and Lauhala bracelets, which are made with woven leaves of the lauhala tree.

According to Abby Maresh, associate director of admissions and Creighton's primary recruiter for Hawai'i, the Hawaiian tradition at Creighton runs deep. The first student came from Hawai'i to Creighton in 1924, and the university has hosted at least one student from Hawai'i since then.

In the early 1940's, Creighton saw a dramatic increase in the number of students coming from the islands. After Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in World War II, a wave of Japanese and Asian discrimination hit the United States, especially in the Western states. Universities stopped accepting Japanese American students and students from Hawai'i.

After the war, the US government promised to pay for the higher education of former soldiers, a policy commonly called the G.I. Bill. Despite this, many universities across the country would not allow former American soldiers of Japanese or Pacific descent to use their G.I. Bill to pay for college, if they were admitted at all.

Creighton resisted the discriminatory trends of the time and continued to welcome students of Asian descent, notably, young students from Hawai'i.

"Creighton was one of, if not the, furthest west institution that would, number one, accept Japanese Americans at that time, [and] number two, allow them to use their G.I. Bill," Maresh said.

Hawai'i's relationship with Creighton has remained strong over the years, partly due to the stories shared by previous students upon returning to the islands, said Maresh.

"It's a very small community when you treat people well. They tell their friends. When you don't treat people well, they tell

more of their friends, right?" Maresh said. "People share their stories. There's a history of something called 'talk story' in Hawai'i, which is kind of sharing ideas, knowledge [and] experiences. And people talk about what they love, right? You often hear from your friends and family about colleges, so they share that."

Each year, about 50 to 60 freshmen arrive at Creighton from Hawai'i. The students are welcomed by Hui 'O Hawaii club, which provides support to students from Hawai'i. The club was founded in 1948, which makes it older than the official U.S. statehood of Hawai'i itself.

The Makahiki celebration is just one of Hui 'O Hawaii's traditions meant to ease the transition for incoming students. According to the club's president, College of Arts and Sciences senior Jason Chong, Hui 'O Hawaii hosts about one event per week.

The biggest event of the year is the annual lu'au, which introduces over 1,000 people to food and dances from Hawai'i every year. It is the largest student-led event at Creighton.

Events like Makahiki give students from Hawai'i a chance to connect with their culture while at Creighton and gives other students the opportunity to experience Hawaiian traditions for the first time.

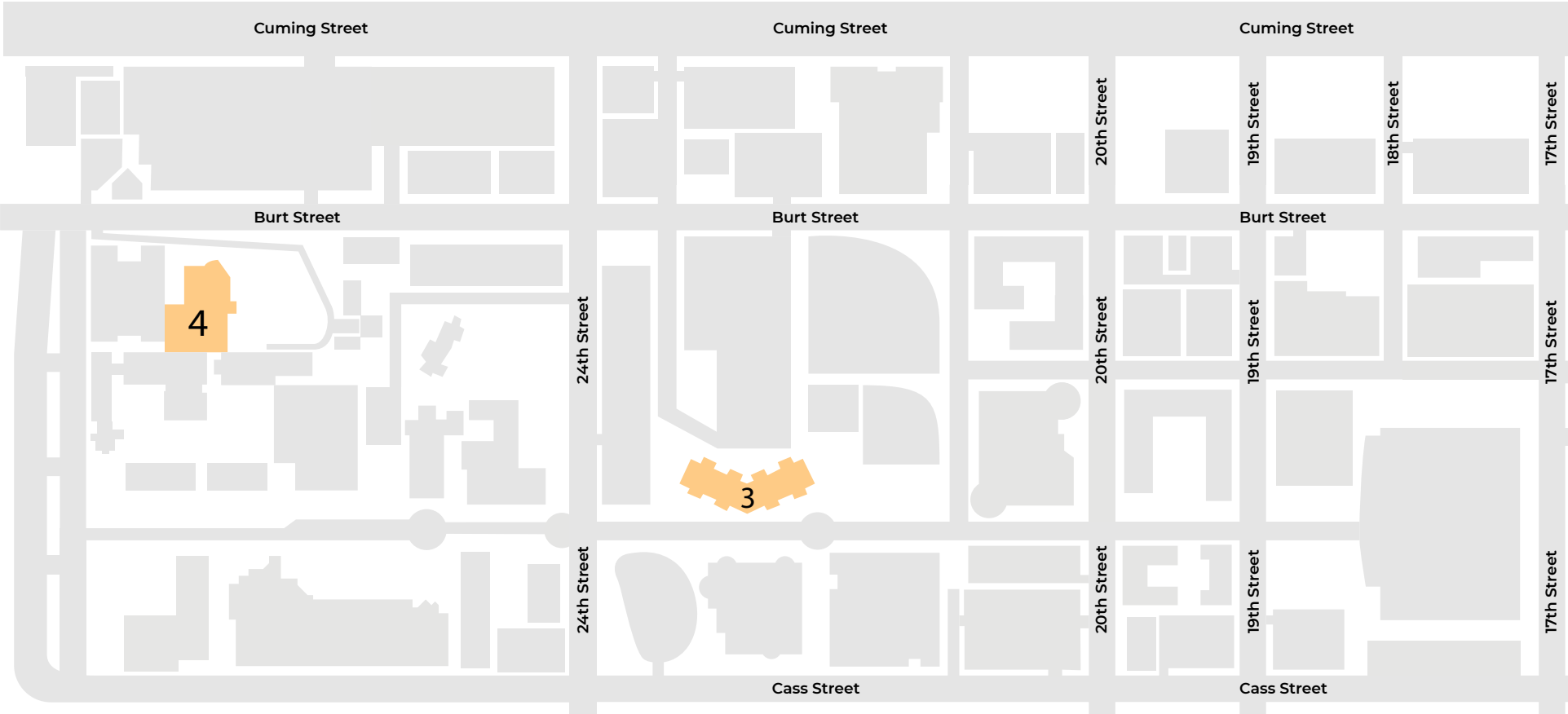
"Hawai'i Club does definitely give me a home away from home. And it's given me a lot of ... relationships and a lot of friendships," Chong said.

Hui 'O Hawaii's annual lu'au will take place on March 29. Tickets for the lu'au will be available for purchase in the coming weeks.



JONAH LAGRANGE/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Two Creighton students play a fun game of Konane, a Hawaiian form of checkers, at the event.



## Weekly Campus Safety Report

This is a selection of incidents chosen by the Editor in Chief and is not a comprehensive weekly report. The full report is compiled in the Daily Crime Log which anyone can access in the Public Safety office located at 2222 Burt St.

- 1

February 12 - 1:09 p.m.  
The Heider Hall desk attendant activated the panic alarm after a non-affiliate gained access to the lobby. Public Safety made contact with the non-affiliate and issued a ban and bar notice. (Not pictured.)
- 2

February 13 - 10:00 a.m.  
Facilities reported damage and a possible theft from the A/C unit in the parking area under the BIC building. (Not pictured.)
- 3

February 15 - 6:03 p.m.  
Public Safety assisted RDOD and RD at McGloin with a possible alcohol violation in McGloin Hall.
- 4

February 16 - 9:18 p.m.  
Public Safety responded to the first floor of Hixson Lied for a report of a damaged window.



# Winter weather hits campus



NATHAN JOBALIA/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Creighton University has seen several inches of snow and sub-zero temperatures over the past couple of weeks. This winter weather marks the first that the city of Omaha has seen this season.

## ELIZABETH JONES Editor in Chief

For the last couple weeks, Omaha has seen extreme winter weather for the first time this season.

This week, the city experienced severely cold temperatures. An Extreme Cold Warning was in place for Tuesday from 6 p.m. until noon on Wednesday, then from 9 p.m. on Wednesday until 9 a.m. on Thursday.

“An Extreme Cold Warning is issued when dangerously cold air temperatures or wind chill values are expected or occurring. If you are in an area with an Extreme Cold Warning, avoid going outside,” the National Weather Service’s website says.

The Extreme Cold Warning stated that wind chills were expected to reach as low as 35 degrees below zero.

In addition to the cold, Omaha has seen a total of over eight inches of snow this month.

The snow on Feb. 12, which amounted to 3.2 inches (measured at the Eppley Airfield) according to the National Weather Service, was the first snowfall this winter. On average, Omaha sees its first snowfall of over one inch on November 30, making this season abnormal, according to KMTV-TV.

“There’s not a really good reason [we didn’t get snow until this late],” Katie Gross, a meteorologist with the Omaha/Valley, NE

office of the National Weather Service, said. “We were just kind of stuck in this really dry pattern for a while, and then eventually that pattern broke through, and we had several waves move through the last week or so here that brought several rounds of snow to the area.”

For some students, the snow was an entirely new experience.

“I touched snow for the first time last week,” a College of Nursing freshman from California, Alexandria Lim, said.

Another student from California, College of Arts and Sciences junior Audrey Pon, is also relatively new to this winter weather.

“[The snow is] cool to look at but not cool to be in... I tried driving in the snow,” Pon said. “I made it 30 minutes and it was good; I was being really careful, [and] then I slid into a rock... [My family] was laughing at me.”

Creighton University closed campus last week on Wednesday, Feb. 12 due to snow, but stayed open for most of this week, despite additional snow and severely cold temperatures. Yesterday, Thursday, Feb. 20, campus was closed until 11 a.m. due to the cold weather.

The critical issues response team advises university leadership on whether or not to close.

“Individuals from multiple campus units representing students, faculty and staff are involved in recommending any closures or de-

lays,” a statement from the university, which was sent to the Creightonian via email by Casey Hoag, Creighton’s senior director of external communications, said. “This involves evaluating all available information to minimize disruption to essential campus operations, including healthcare services provided to the community, and ensure safe travel and access to facilities.”

The statement also said, “To remain good stewards of our mission, every effort is made during the winter months to have our university remain open and hold classes. The safety of our students, faculty, staff and guests is always a priority and Creighton closely monitors all severe weather that may impact our campuses.”

Additionally, Hoag emphasized the university’s commitment to keeping the Creighton community safe and said that anyone in need of assistance is encouraged to contact the Department of Public Safety.

“I just think that it’s incredibly unsafe [that campus wasn’t closed due to the cold],” Ren Roecker, a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences, said.

Students, staff and faculty had to take steps to ensure safety during extreme temperatures. On Monday night, the university sent a school-wide email out telling people to be careful and including tips for taking care of homes and dressing properly for the weather.

“I have [on] my big winter coat [and] as thick of pants as I own, and [I’m] just trying to stay inside as much as possible,” Nick Nondorf, a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences, said.

Other college campuses, including the University of Nebraska-Omaha, were also open during the extreme temperatures.

Gross added that, as of Tuesday, it looked like a little bit of snow overnight would be the last bit of snow for at least the foreseeable forecast.

Omaha is also forecasted to have warmer temperatures next week.

According to the National Weather Service’s 7-day forecast as of Wednesday, high temperatures are supposed to reach the low 50s on Monday and Tuesday.

“Right now, even the eight-to-14-day outlooks are still well above normal... So, at least for the foreseeable future for the next few weeks, it looks like we should be at least near or above normal,” Gross said.

The dramatic change in temperature is due to how the weather patterns have developed across the region.

“We had this big trough that brought some colder air in, and then we’re going to see more of a ridge across the area that pushes that warmer air from...the southwestern U.S. over towards the central part of the country,” Gross said.

# Sustainability office holds compost pilot

## JOSSY FETTE News Reporter

The Skutt Compost Pilot started on Jan. 27 and will last until March 27, 2025. The Office of Sustainability Programs asks students to place their compostable bowls, utensils, cups, lids, food items and napkins into the green compost bins in the Skutt Student Center or along The California Street Pedestrian Mall. The pilot runs from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

The Skutt Compost Pilot is an initiative created to collect data on how much compostable waste is made in Wareham Court and the Skutt Student Center, since the restaurants located in Skutt now use compostable bowls, cups and utensils. The goal of the Skutt Compost Pilot is to add a permanent composting structure to the Skutt Student Center.

There are four stations in the Skutt Stu-

dent Center; two are in Wareham Court, one is in the middle of Skutt and one is near the Skutt ballroom.

Since starting the project, the biggest issue has been with the Qdoba bowls.

“One of the biggest contamination issues is the Qdoba plastic lids—they are recyclable, but many people leave them on and discard the entire container in the green compost bin. While people generally want to dispose of waste correctly, they are often in a hurry and prioritize convenience, which remains an ongoing challenge,” April Thompson, the project and reporting coordinator for the Office of Sustainability Programs, said.

In the 2024 academic year, Creighton University produced 9.37 tons of compostable waste. The waste was primarily collected from Brandeis Hall and the green bins along the mall. In just the fall semester, 8.5 of these tons were collected. The Skutt Compost Pilot has since collected 1,087 pounds of compost.

“This is significant, considering we are only tracking compost for three hours a day, four days a week,” Thompson said.

The university also collected 41.8 tons of recycling during the 2024 academic year.

In 2018 the EPA found that participating in recycling programs prevented the equivalent of 193 million metric tons of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere in the U.S.

The Office of Sustainability Programs launched a new “sustainability-related” course attribute to allow students to find courses in the NEST that have sustainability-related content and discussions.

“Our goal is to have at least one course with this attribute in every department at Creighton,” Andrew Baruth, Ph.D., the director of the Office of Sustainability Programs, said.

Additionally, individuals, clubs, the Inter-Fraternity Council, labs or residence halls are able to be officially recognized for sustain-

ability efforts with the new sustainability certificate programs.

With this, the Office of Sustainability Programs has also piloted a residence hall composting program lasting through February and March. The green compost bin can be found on the fifth floor of Swanson Hall, the kitchen in Deglman Hall, the first floor of Graves Hall and the third floor of McGloin Hall.

“I also want to emphasize the importance of individual participation in compost and recycling initiatives. If each of us individually make small, thoughtful decisions to reduce, reuse, compost and recycle, together we can enact significant change in our community and the world,” Leah McEvoy, a College of Arts and Sciences sophomore and the zero waste coordinator and eco-rep lead for the Office of Sustainability Programs, said.



# SNL celebrates anniversary

**CHLOE CARRILLO**  
 Assistant Scene Editor

On Sunday, Feb. 16, Saturday Night Live (SNL), the comedy sketch television show, hosted its 50th anniversary special studded with stars and cameos.

The extra-long special began with Sabrina Carpenter and Paul Howard singing a rendition of “Homeward Bound.”

Then, in traditional SNL style, there was a host. Steve Martin, a historical SNL cast member, was the man of the hour. He was joined by guest appearances from past cast members John Mulaney and Martin Short. They made references to old skits and bits and frequently mentioned past hosts and cast members in the crowd.

The opening skit for the episode was a rendition of “The Lawrence Welk Show,” starring Will Ferrell in his iconic impersonation of Robert Goulet. He sang, rode in on a vespa and brought all of the swagger that came with his character. He was joined by the Maharelle Sisters, played by Kim Kardashian, Scarlett Johanson and Ana Gasteyer.

The skit was in reference to an extremely popular bit done by SNL in the past, where Kristin Wiig plays the fourth sister, Dooneese, who has an emphasized forehead and tiny hands. Dooneese’s character is awkward and satirically obscene, so the combination of her character and Ferrell’s Goulet impression were a perfect opening skit to showcase the iconic comedy of SNL.

The second skit of the night was another callback to an iconic skit called “Black Jeopardy.” This skit was made up entirely of SNL

legends, with Kenan Thompson as the host and Eddie Murphy, Leslie Jones and Tracy Morgan as contestants. All the answers given were in the comedic style, and Tracy Morgan really played up his character. There was also another iconic cameo by Tom Hanks.

In between the second and third skits, Emma Stone introduced an extremely popular character, played by Molly Shannon, by the name of Sally O’Malley. SNL then paid tribute to all the physical comedy it has done over the years, including the iconic “Cowbell” sketch.

The third skit was a continuation of the extremely viral “Domingo” series from the past year. While the first “Domingo” sketch featured Ariana Grande singing “Espresso” off-key, the anniversary special and third part of the series was set to the tune of “Defying Gravity” and performed by Sabrina Carpenter. Pedro Pascal and Bad Bunny were also introduced in comedic fashion, creating a tune the internet will surely be singing for a while.

To break up the skits, former cast members and comedic icons Amy Poehler and Tina Fey answered long-awaited questions about extremely popular moments from SNL and shouted out famous celebrities in the crowd.

The fourth skit was a digital sketch prepared prior to the live air of the episode, where current castmate Bowen Yang and recurring guest star Andy Samberg sang about anxiety regarding starring on SNL. The song touched on how everyone performs on SNL experiences anxiety, and, somewhat surprisingly, irritable bowel syndrome.

The next break between the fourth and fifth skits was Aubrey Plaza’s introduction

of Miley Cyrus and Brittany Howard as they sang a rendition of “Nothing Compares 2 U” as tribute to Sinead O’Connor.

The next segment of the night was a somewhat iconic one: the “Weekend Update” with Colin Hanks and Michael Che. They touched on some current events in their shocking comedic style that made fun of serious, relevant world and political news. SNL also had two past characters perform, namely, “Girl You Wish You Hadn’t Started a Conversation With at a Party,” played by former SNL cast member Cecily Strong; and “Drunkle,” played by Bobby Moynihan. The segment ended with a cameo by Seth Meyers, and Bill Murray listed off the best former “Weekend Update” hosts. Spoiler alert—Colin Hanks did not make the list.

In true SNL fashion, Meyers and Murray joked that the skits after the weekend update weren’t worth watching.

The fifth skit of the night starred Kate McKinnon’s iconic character in the historic SNL skit, “Close Encounters,” where her character narrates how she was abducted by aliens to some investigators. McKinnon’s comedic timing was perfect alongside new characters played by Pedro Pascal, Woody Harrelson and Meryl Streep. This skit included McKinnon’s classic raunchy humor that has solidified her success as a comedian.

The following sketches included a slew of renditions of past SNL skits. Lorraine Newman, one of the original members of the SNL cast, reminisced on her time with SNL while Pete Davidson provided comedic relief as the character Chad.

There was a rendition of the famous sketch

“Debbie Downer.” Debbie Downer, who is played by former SNL cast member Rachel Dratch, tried to energize the conversation with depressing facts while Jimmy Fallon, Drew Barrymore, Robert DeNiro and Ayo Edebiri celebrated SNL’s 50th anniversary. Rachel Dratch said her character’s famous line, “Speaking of, kids, it’s official. I can’t have children. But I told you that once, Jimmy.”

Fallon responded, “Yeah, did you? Yeah, I don’t remember.” He then proceeded to break character.

In a former sketch as Debbie Downer, Rachel Dratch said a similar line while breaking character, and several cast members in the sketch, including Jimmy Fallon, then broke character as well. The “Debbie Downer” anniversary sketch was a fun tribute to special SNL memories.

“Scared Straight” with Kenan Thompson, Eddie Murphy and Will Ferrell was another renditioned sketch. Will Ferrell entering the sketch wearing cut-off shorts was only one of the many surprises featured in the sketch. Other performances of the night included Lil’ Wayne.

After the sixth skit, Adam Sandler, introduced by Jack Nicholson, sang a song about 50 years of SNL. He shouted out a lot of pop-culture references and made some funny jabs at the creator of SNL, Lorne Michaels.

Overall, SNL 50 was full of cameos, special appearances, nostalgic performances and comedy, of course.

# Embrace cold, skate through winter



FARRAH VELASCO /THE CREIGHTONIAN

**FARRAH VELASCO**  
 Scene Writer

With the winter season and snow falling, the best place to go would be the Skate Ribbon in the Heartland of America Park. If you want that fun and thrilling winter experience ice skating would be a perfect way to spend your weekends. This is an outdoor skating rink located near Old Market and it only costs \$5 to rent skates. For those who own their own skates, it is completely free. It also converts into a roller-skating rink when the summer season comes and all the ice melts. So, the fun never ends.

The Skate Ribbon is shaped like a ribbon (hence its name) and has separate sections for those who are trying to learn for the first time or working on practicing tricks. Along

with the railings all along the perimeter, they also offer walkers to assist beginners in their learning process. They make ice skating inclusive for any level so that everyone can have a good time. If you’re feeling a little chilly, at the back end of the rink there is a fireplace surrounded by a bunch of chairs to keep you warm. The fireplace also serves as a great place to take a break and have a conversation with your friends. The rink is surrounded by pine trees that feel like Christmas, LED lights that flash different colors and the best 2000s songs playing on the speakers that will elevate your night and experience.

The Skate Ribbon is the place to be if you’re looking for somewhere to live out your winter fantasies. Go and give ice skating a try if you have not already; it is guaranteed to be a magical experience.



FARRAH VELASCO /THE CREIGHTONIAN

Skate Ribbon at Heartland of America Park features an ice rink where adults and children can skate. The ice rink features a fireplace (top left) where attendees can keep warm in the cold.



# Elevating Omaha’s sweet scene

## Centi: worth braving cold for gelato

CAMERON ELIAS  
Scene Editor

Nestled in the heart of Old Market lies a quaint ice cream and gelato shop where customers can savor delicious treats away from the snow. From signature crêpes to drinks, Centi has plenty of options to warm people up as they explore Omaha.

Centi is a small gelato and ice cream shop that illuminates the industrial charm of the Old Market. Customers are greeted by employees, and there is a small crêpe station to the left with a gelato station to the right. For those who wish to try a sweet treat, there is a gigantic chalkboard behind the gelato station that lists Centi’s menu.

The availability of fresh gelato and crêpes is a unique aspect of Centi. The gelato flavors offered are endless, whereby customers can eat cookies and cream, stracciatella (with different flavors or by itself), prabana, lemon curd and chocolate sorbet, to list a few. Centi also offers vegan flavors for those who wish to have gelato made without animal products. Additionally, customers can buy pints of gelato if they wish to take some home.

For those who are maybe not in the mood for gelato and want something more filling, Centi offers a variety of crêpes, such as the tres leches crêpe. The tres leches crêpe is filled with strawberries, whipped cream, dulce de leche and powdered sugar. It is a yummy treat for all strawberry lovers. There is also the strawberry banana crêpe that is smothered in Nutella and a s’mores crêpe for those who have a zest for chocolate delight.

The cran brie, filled with walnuts, brie cream and arugula, is a taste of perfection for those who do not have nut allergies. However, Centi creates crêpes that taste just like fancy desserts,

such as the banana foster and berry brûlée. The berry brûlée is just like a crème brûlée but wrapped up in a crêpe. The cold berries that top the berry brûlée are a unique complement to the warm pastry cream beneath. The berry brûlée is made fresh right in front of customers at the crêpe station; it is quite a show.

There are other unique crêpe options offered at Centi that resemble breakfast or lunch foods. For instance, customers can order a crêpe that has smoked ham, onion, a fried egg and cheese, topped with mornay sauce. There is also a cheeseburger crêpe and a chorizo con huevo that has arugula and cotija cheese. Customers can also get a ‘crêpa-dilla’ that includes a blend of four Mexican cheeses.

Each customer can customize their crêpe to their liking. As the weather gets colder in Omaha, customers can stop by Centi to get a fresh hot cup of coffee or tea. Centi offers an Americano, hot chocolate, tea and a matcha latte. There are also cold brews and plenty of espresso options to kickstart the day. For those who want a touch of gelato in their drink, there is the affogato, a drink that contains gelato doused in a double shot of espresso.

With the small space and limited sitting options at Centi, customers cannot remain at the quaint ice cream and gelato stop for long. But all the food and beverage items are easily transportable, and Centi is surrounded by several other shops and restaurants. Pop into Centi for a spell to get a sweet treat before venturing out into the snowy streets of the Old Market.



CAMERON ELIAS /THE CREIGHTONIAN

Located in the heart of the Old Market, Centi is a small gelato shop that features signature drinks, pasteries and crêpes. The berry brulee, for example, is a scrumptious experience for anyone who enjoys a regular crème brûlée. Crêpes are made fresh right in front of customers.

Feb. 22 Saturday	Feb. 23 Sunday	Feb. 24 Monday	Feb. 25 Tuesday	Feb. 26 Wednesday	Feb. 27 Thursday	Feb. 28 Friday
	<b>Volunteering at Ronald McDonald House</b> 3:00 p.m. <i>Ronald McDonald House</i>	<b>Skutt Compost Pilot</b> 11:00 a.m. <i>Skutt</i>	<b>Skutt Compost Pilot</b> 11:00 a.m. <i>Skutt</i>	<b>Skutt Compost Pilot</b> 11:00 a.m. <i>Skutt</i>	<b>Skutt Compost Pilot</b> 11:00 a.m. <i>Skutt</i>	<b>Fresh Fruit Friday</b> 12:30 p.m. <i>KFC Spine</i>
	<b>Well of Worship</b> 7:00 p.m. <i>Harper Auditorium</i>	<b>Mindful Mondays: Bouquet Making</b> 4:00 p.m. <i>Skutt</i>	<b>Blender Bike</b> 3:00 p.m. <i>KFC Spine</i>	<b>Drop-In Spanish Tutoring</b> 5:00 p.m. <i>Kingfisher Room</i>	<b>Survivors Circle</b> 1:00 p.m. <i>VIP Center</i>	<b>CUASA Soul Food Dinner</b> 6:00 p.m. <i>Harper Ballroom</i>
					<b>IRHG Dirty Sodas</b> 2:00 p.m. <i>Skutt</i>	<b>Spring Awakening</b> 7:00 p.m. <i>Lied Center</i>



# Addison Rae: influencer or popstar?

CARLY CHASE  
Opinion Columnist

Last year was undeniably the year of the female pop artist, with solo artists like Sabrina Carpenter, Chappell Roan and Charli XCX dominating the charts and capturing the cultural zeitgeist. This trend shows no signs of slowing down in 2025, as some of the most anticipated releases this year come from female artists. Among them is Addison Rae, the former TikTok sensation turned pop star, who just released her new single “High Fashion” and is set to drop her debut album in the coming months.

While TikTok remains at the forefront of Gen Z culture, few stars have successfully rebranded themselves from TikTokers into pop stars. Addison Rae, however, stands out as a rare exception. Over the past six years, she has evolved beyond her “Hype House” origins by carving out a space for herself in the competitive world of pop music. But what makes her different from other TikTok stars or influencers who have tried, and often failed, to make well-received music?

Rae’s journey into music began in 2021 with a mixed-reviewed single titled “Obsessed.” It felt like the typical influencer-made song—cringeworthy and akin to Jojo Siwa or Jacob Sartorius. A lack of artistic integrity or vision often plagues such efforts, which makes it clear when music is used as a way to stay relevant or cash in on fame. However, Rae’s 2023 EP “AR” marked a turning point. By embracing a hyperpop sound reminiscent of Charli XCX, she laid the groundwork for her rise to cult pop status. Her 2024 single “Diet Pepsi” shocked fans with its authenticity and quality while her collaboration with Charli XCX and A.G. Cook on the “Von

Dutch” remix earned a Grammy nomination for “Best Remixed Recording.” Unlike many TikTok stars who rush into music without a clear vision, Rae has taken a deliberate and strategic approach by aligning herself with established artists and producers who have elevated her work beyond social media fame.

What’s most surprising about Rae’s recent work is how far she’s come from her TikTok roots. The same girl who danced alongside Bryce Hall and Lil Huddy in 2020 is now crafting polished and high-quality pop songs that defy the low expectations often associated with influencers-turned-musicians. Her latest single “High Fashion” was released on Valentine’s Day, and it is a bold and provocative track that channels the early 2000s glamour of icons like Britney Spears and Paris Hilton. It earned 1.36 million streams on Spotify in its first day; it is a refreshing departure from the sappy love songs that typically dominate the holiday. This showcases Rae’s ability to take creative risks and stand out in a crowded pop landscape.

Unlike many of her contemporaries, Rae has strategically channeled her online popularity into a promising music career. Take, for example, the D’Amelio family, who attempted to replicate the Kardashian model with their reality TV show. While the show initially capitalized on their TikTok fame, it was canceled after just three seasons—leaving little lasting impact. In contrast, Rae’s focus on music and collaborations with established artists has given her a more enduring foundation in the entertainment industry. Dixie D’Amelio’s music career, for instance, failed to resonate as strongly as Rae’s. Many Internet citizens called D’Amelio’s debut single “Be Happy” cringeworthy, and they cited its juvenile lyrics and played-out message. While

both started with music as a way to extend their relevance, Rae’s approach feels more thoughtful and authentic. Her lyrics may not be deep or thought-provoking, but they don’t try to be—they’re fun, carefree and are meant to make listeners feel good. This authenticity sets her apart from others who try too hard to be meaningful while falling flat.

Rae’s rebrand hasn’t been without controversy. Critics have pointed to her conservative background, which contrasts sharply with the progressive values often championed by the pop and hyper-scenes. While Rae has expressed admiration for controversial figures like Donald Trump, her recent collaborations with artists like Charli XCX and Troye Sivan—who have large LGBTQ+ audiences—suggest a possible shift in her perspective. Whether this signals genuine growth or strategic rebranding remains to be seen, but it’s clear that Rae is working to align herself more closely with the inclusive ethos of her musical peers and their fanbases. These artists likely wouldn’t risk being associated with someone who goes against their values, which adds credibility to Rae’s evolving image.

As Addison Rae prepares to release her debut album later this year, the question remains: Can she fully shed her TikTok persona and establish herself as a legitimate pop artist? While it’s unclear if she can move past

cringeworthy moments from her past, her recent output suggests a promising future. A well-produced discography, a clear artistic vision and the portraiture of heavyweights set her apart from other influencers who try music. Unlike those who make music solely to cash on their fame, Rae’s ability to take risks—like her VMAs outfit last year—make a legitimate effort to be a musician has allowed her to avoid being a joke. She’s well on her way to becoming a social media star; she’s on track to becoming a pop icon in her own right.

If you haven’t listened to her new single “High Fashion,” I suggest you do—especially if you’re a fan of that 2000s pop vibe. In the future, I hope to look back and say I was an early supporter of Addison Rae’s music. She has so much potential to become one of the next big “pop girls.” What sets her apart is her ability to transcend the limitations of TikTok fame and the bland pattern of influencer music. This proves that with the right strategy and vision, social media stars can indeed make a lasting impact in the music industry.

# Examining 'Republican makeup' trend

CHARLOTTE THAISETTHAWATKUL  
Opinion Columnist

Recently, I was talking to my friend about what topics were popular on our TikTok “For You” pages and found that we both had the “Republican makeup” trend in common.

This trend isn’t exactly new, as I recall people making “Republicansonas” to the “God Made Girls” audio all the way back in 2021.

But it seems that this trend has resurfaced, especially in light of the new right-wing Trump administration and the growing anxieties of the political state in this country among some youth.

For the uninitiated, the “Republican

makeup” trend is where left-leaning creators on TikTok put on makeup they think staunchly Republican women tend to wear.

This entails cakey matte foundation that’s too orange for your natural skin tone, super white concealer, an overly warm pink blush, thick black eyeliner all around the eyes, dry clumpy mascara, bright red lipstick that doesn’t match your outfit and bonus points if you can get a bleach blonde wig to finish the look!

Obviously, this trend is a form of political satire on the left.

But some creators have started to ponder why this is; why do some Republican women do their makeup like that?

From Marjorie Taylor Greene to Kellyanne Conway, Internet citizens believe female right-wing figureheads seem to all have this specific look.

I want to investigate some reasons behind why this might be.

The first thing that comes to my mind is religion.

I think a good look into how religion can play into how conservative women do their makeup is in the now-deleted video that Christian YouTuber duo Girl Defined posted on “How to Wear Makeup in a God Honoring Way.”

In this video, Girl Defined points to a specific Bible verse, from 1 Timothy 2:9-10, “likewise women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but what is proper for women who profess godliness with good works.”

She goes on to explain that the gold and

pearls are referring to the “ungodly women” like “the temple prostitutes.”

So here we can see that some Christian women are expected to look presentable, yet not in an immodest or flashy way; hence, the way they are told wear makeup must show their purity.

I think this helps put into perspective some of the struggles young Christian girls might go through.

There is pressure to look good in some fundamentalist Christian circles, to highlight your “God-given natural beauty,” yet you can’t be too obsessed with your looks. This paradox can be confusing.

It also doesn’t help that there is a common thought in misogynistic online spaces that makeup is for shallow women or that underneath all that makeup, a woman is actually ugly.

For example, take this Reddit post from r/unpopular opinion: “I’m tired of seeing women who don’t look good without makeup pretending to be some exclusive model while also berating short men or ugly men.”

This is a common thought in harmful online spaces that women have it easy by being able to wear makeup.

I think that some conservative women might want to be seen like “one of the good ones” to win the approval of certain conservative men, so they try to wear minimal makeup to show that they aren’t shallow.

Yet, there is also an added expectation to look good, which might necessitate such makeup.

An interesting (and maybe controversial) point that many TikTokers have pointed out is that Republican makeup also looks a lot like the makeup adult film stars wear.

I think that this makes sense because the appearances of both groups are heavily dependent on the preferences of men, as some conservative women have traditional views of how women should live under the patriarchy. Naturally, they comply with the beauty standards of men.

However, I also think that this comment only really applies to adult films from the 2000s.

Or honestly, any makeup from the 2000s.

For example, the orangey foundation really reminds me of what Christina Aguilera looked like back then.

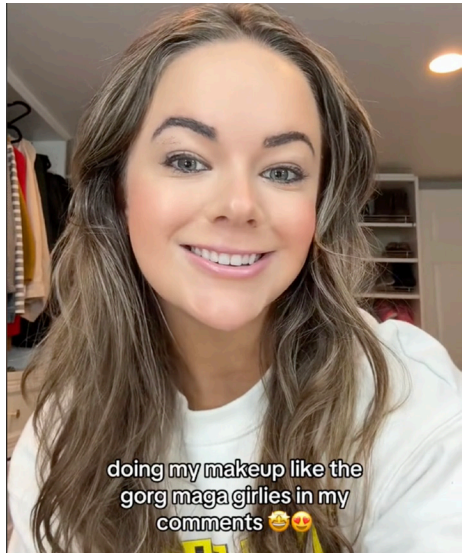
Now, social media might change this trend; however, because of how personalized algorithms are, if you aren’t actively looking for makeup content, you might not come across all of the hottest fashion trends online.

All in all, there are many factors that could explain why some Republican women have that similar makeup look.

Throughout the 2010s, the right poked fun at leftists by portraying them as “Blue Haired Feminists,” transphobic caricatures and “Social Justice Warriors.” The new Republican makeup trend flips the script, making the right the center of ridicule, poking fun of their perceived tackiness.

At the end of the day, this trend only furthers the political divide in the U.S., as the left and the right are pitted more and more against each other.

As social media algorithms push more extreme and radical content to users, this trend seems to be another case of political polarization.



@itssuzannelambert/TikTok

TikTok creator Suzanne Lambert is often credited with starting the viral online trend.



# Baseball ends series with first win

DYLAN WIESE  
Assistant Sports Editor

A new season brings hope and excitement to a program and a fanbase alike. This past weekend, the Bluejays baseball team kicked off its season as the athletes traveled for a series with the North Carolina Greensboro Spartans.

The weekend kicked off with a doubleheader on Friday but began with disappointment for the Jays, dropping both games. They lost the first matchup 5-3 and followed that up with a 3-0 loss later that day. The Bluejays were able to recover, however, collecting a dominating 17-1 victory with 17 hits on Sunday.

"Like a lot of opening series, we learned that we have a lot of things to work on," Head Coach Ed Servais said. "When you practice on a daily basis and scrimmage against each other...you don't really know what you have until you play against some outside competition. The good news is that we improved a lot on Sunday. ... A lot of the things that we did wrong on Friday, we improved on Sunday...so we are hoping that we continue to see improvement again next weekend."

The Bluejays are looking to recover from last season, when they were left out of postseason play. They did not qualify for the Big East tournament or the NCAA tournament despite holding a 35-17 record and not dropping a single midweek game.

This year, hopes are much higher for the Bluejays, picked to finish fourth in the Big East. Three players were named to the Big East Preseason Team: infielder Kyle Hess, outfielder Nolan Sailors and right-handed pitcher Dominic Cancellieri.

"We have a lot of veteran players that have played a lot of baseball at this level, so that is encouraging," Servais said. "I think we have a lot more pitching depth. I think we've got some young pitchers that still have to kind of figure it out a little bit, but I'm optimistic that within the next couple of weeks, they will settle down a little bit and show that we have [a lot of] options on the mound."

After posting a 28-4 record in nonconference play last season, the Bluejays were looking to begin with a strong showing in the doubleheader on opening day. Both teams were able to get off to a fast start in the first game. The Spartans scored three runs in the first inning, coming off of an RBI double and a two RBI single.

The Bluejays responded quickly, with three runs of their own coming in the top of the second off of a pair of base hits. The high scoring would continue for the remainder of the inning, as the Spartans hit a two-run home run in the bottom of the inning to gain a 5-3 advantage. Defense and pitching were the story for the rest of this game, as neither team was able to score again. The Spartans took game one of the series 5-3.

The second game saw much less scoring. Neither team was able to punch across a run for the first four innings. This changed in the bottom of the fifth, as the Spartans scored three runs, coming in a variety of ways. This would be the only time either team was able to get on the board, as the Spartans won 3-0.

The Bluejay's fortunes changed in the third game of the series on Sunday. The scoring began with a two-run home run from junior infielder Ben North for the Bluejays. Senior outfielder Will Maclean followed up with a two-run home run of his own to give the Bluejays a 4-0 lead in the third. The Bluejays extended their lead further with a four-run fifth inning to grow their lead to 8-0.

The lead only continued to grow, with two more runs coming for the Bluejays. One of these was on an RBI single from Sailors and the second run came courtesy of a hit by pitch. A wild seventh inning continued the scoring for the Bluejays. They scored seven runs in the inning off five base hits, a fielder's choice and a wild pitch. The Spartans answered with an RBI single in the bottom of the inning. This was not enough, as the game came to an early end, with the Bluejays winning by a score of 17-1 to bring the mercy rule into effect.

"[The third game] was completely different," Servais said. "We played with a lead for the first time all weekend, and when you play with a lead, I think you respond differently. You settle in a little bit more and are able to control the strike zone. ... We got a lot of runs that took the pressure off of the pitching and defense, and [overall] they were just more relaxed."

Despite dropping two out of the three games in the series, the Bluejays showed a lot of potential on the defensive side. Throughout the whole series, the Bluejays gave up a run in only four innings.

"When we were throwing strikes, our pitching was very good," Servais said. "For the most part, we didn't give up very many hits, giving up only twelve for the whole weekend. That is outstanding, so I am hoping that our pitchers realize that their pitches are good enough to throw over the plate and not give up very many hits."

The Bluejays will hit the road again next weekend, traveling to Portland, Oregon for a four-game series with the University of Portland. The series will begin at 5 p.m. tonight.

# Quadball dominates Blue Jay Classic VIII



AIDAN SCHWARZ/CREIGHTON QUADBALL

SHELBY SEU  
Sports Writer

Creighton University's quadball teams took home the glory for the first time in the Blue Jay Classic VIII, held on Saturday, Feb. 8 in the Rasmussen Center. Creighton's varsity quadball team finished in first place as it remained undefeated; wins throughout the tournament came against University of Missouri's club quadball team with a 215-30 win, University of Virginia's quidditch club with a 185-90 win, Creighton's junior varsity team (Blue Jays) with a score of 235-70 in the round robin and a victory of 245-80 in the championships.

"I thought it [the performance] was pretty dominant," Creighton chaser and senior Tanner Sato said. "At least from [Creighton's] standpoint, I thought all of the games were very decisive wins... I do think that performance-wise, [we were] pretty dominant."

Despite being defeated in the championships, the Blue Jays finished the Classic as the runner-up. During the round robin, despite trailing by seven points against the University of Virginia, the Blue Jays quickly worked to close the gap and came out on top with a score of 215-190, along with another win against Mizzou with a score of 170-155.

"[For] some of [the players], this is their first tournament ever," Sato said. "They had two practices beforehand, and then they [went] out and beat extremely good competition. They beat Virginia, they beat Mizzou—both really gritty teams. ... I think they are more gritty and dog-esque than I think we [experienced players] were when we were younger on that team. They were down seven [points] against Virginia at one point, and not one time did I see an ounce of just giving up. They just kept their head down and kept grinding back to a win. They beat the number two team in the country after being down seven [points]. That's pretty unbelievable. So, I'm just really proud of everyone," he added.

The Classic had two components to its structure. The first was a round robin, where each team would have the opportunity to compete against each other with the goal to accumulate the most wins. The final number of wins determined where they stood in the pool play portion of the competition. This second style of the competition was broken into two games, where the teams ranked third and fourth place—Mizzou with 0-3 and UVA with 1-2, in this case—competed to earn third place in the overall competition. The top teams with the highest number of wins—Creighton with 3-0 and Blue Jays 2-1—competed in the championship round to declare the official winner of the Blue Jay Classic.

The game itself, Quadball, was originally inspired by Quidditch, a sport in the wizarding world of J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series. In this mixed-gender sport, players are mounted on a pole or PVC pipe, known as their "broom," and compete against each other in scoring points against the opposing team by shooting a ball, known as the quaffle, into one of the three mounted hoops, differentiating in height, on the opposite side of the field.

"Obviously, there's [a whole other aspect of] beating, which is unheard of, really, in other sports. But, it's a mix of co-ed handball and dodgeball," Head Coach and Creighton chaser senior Riley Usami said. "[When you are hit by a dodgeball], you have to tag [the goal post to get] back in. And handball is like the movement aspect; you freely move. It's not like [playing] Frisbee, where you're...stuck after a certain [number] of steps."

There are also three available positions for each team

member to hold during their time on the field.

"There are Chasers, Keepers, Beaters and Seekers. Chasers and Keepers pretty much will do your scoring for you. They're the ones who put the ball through the hoop. Beaters...can be used for both offense and defense, but I like to think of them mostly as defense. They're the ones who throw the dodgeballs at the opposing team, trying to hit them. ... And the Seekers, [the] last position: it's kind of like another way to score. You're not putting the ball through the hoop. You're essentially going one-on-one or maybe one-on-one-on-one against another Seeker," Usami said.

Scores are calculated through the number of goals made; ten points are awarded each time the quaffle passes through one of the opponent's hoops. Additional points are given to the team whose seeker acquires the Flag Runner's tennis ball that is hanging from the back of their waist. This position is compared to the snitch in Quidditch and awards the team 35 points when obtained by its Seeker.

Both Creighton quadball teams underwent many challenges in preparation for the Classic, including a short training period due to school's dismissal for winter break, schedule conflicts between players and practice and the annual break-in of new players to the sport. However, despite such obstacles, Creighton and the Blue Jays would train both on and off the field, through physical exercise and deduction of footage from previous games, to ensure their readiness for the competition.

"We have one practice on Wednesday and...one on Sunday... Then we do our everyday skill drills. We then go into...half-court offense and defensive work. And after that, we either go into like an install period where we are trying to install something new [and] work on something that we haven't done before, such as a new defensive [or offensive] play to run. ... We always end the practice with some sort of scrimmaging," Sato said.

Due to numerous challenges present during the training period, Usami and Sato were both left with pre-game jitters.

"As one of the two people pretty much running the practices, there's definitely a little bit of nerves. Like, 'did you prepare them [the players] enough...to actually win our own home tournament for once?'" Usami said.

Yet, as soon as the game was underway, their worries quickly fell away, as Creighton and Blue Jays climbed to the top of the leadership board.

"[After our first game], I was riding a pretty high level of confidence," Sato said.

According to the U.S. Quadball 2024-2025 Standings & Game Database, Creighton is currently ranked the number one team in the nation, while Blue Jays are ranked number twelve. Yet, despite their current victory and standings, Usami and Sato are determined to not let stats or rankings dilute the teams' drive and efforts for preparing for their next milestone, the U.S. National Qualifiers in Champagne, Illinois.

"At the end of the day, this tournament isn't what we're striving to win. We're striving to win a national championship," Usami said.

"Creighton hasn't gotten past a quarter-final game in the last two years," Sato added. "In the last two years, we've been the number one seed going into the tournament, and we get bounced in the quarter final. So this win is awesome; it's great, but we're trying to win a Naty."



# Bluejays make statement on Senior Day



GRANT GRIFFIN/THE CREIGHTONIAN

Continued from Page 1

who has only attempted 39 three-pointers in her five-year career, connected from deep to extend the Bluejay lead to 19 at 67-48. Her fifth three-point make of the season proved a fitting moment for Flanery to sub out each senior for the final time.

“I thought it was the perfect way to kind of pull the seniors out after Mal made a three,” Flanery said. “We had a lot of seniors contribute... Senior days are special when you win and you love the group you have, and today was one of those [special days].”

Fifty-eight of Creighton’s 70 points came from its senior class, a testament to their last-

ing impact on the program. This class has led the Bluejays to three consecutive NCAA tournaments, including the program’s first-ever Elite Eight appearance in 2022, four 20-win seasons and countless unforgettable moments. But above all the achievements, it’s the standard they set that will be remembered most.

“There is no other way to say it other than they’re like great people,” junior Kennedy Townsend said. “Everyone preaches, ‘Culture. Culture. Culture,’ but like, we live that. Those girls are a testament to that. They’re steady leaders, good moments, bad moments. They’re so consistent at practice; they just do things the right way.”

“...That goes to show just how great of people they are.”

-Allison Heathcock  
Women’s Basketball  
Freshman

“They’re all super supportive, and they want us to succeed as well, even though they obviously have their own success, so I think that goes to show just how great of people they are,” Heathcock added.

Following a mid-week matchup against St. John’s Wednesday night, Creighton will travel to the Windy City to face off against DePaul this Sunday at 2 p.m.

As the Bluejays close out the conference schedule, the foundation laid by these seniors, both on and off the court, will continue to inspire the team as they set their sights on championship season.

# St. John’s outlasts Jays in battle for first

ABBIE GALLANT  
Editor in Chief

When the Creighton men’s basketball team boarded a plane to the Big Apple, the matchup had all the makings of a postseason showdown—high stakes, intense pressure and more than just another tally in the win column on the line. After St. John’s suffered a surprise loss at Villanova earlier in the week, the Bluejays suddenly had a golden opportunity: deliver a statement win and dethrone the top dog in the Big East to claim first place in the conference.

But escaping the Garden with a victory is no easy feat—especially for Creighton, which had come up short in all three of its previous battles against the Red Storm on their home floor.

With the stage set and conference implications looming, then-No. 9 St. John’s outlasted then-No. 24 Creighton in a 79-73 showdown.

Here are three key factors that fueled the Red Storm’s victory.

**#1- Free throws and fouls: a rare slip in Creighton’s game plan**

A key pillar of Creighton’s game plan is its ability to defend effectively and execute offensive sequences without fouling its opponents. This discipline is reflected in the stats—according to NCAA.com, the Bluejays are tied for first in the nation with the fewest personal fouls committed per game, averaging just 11; they share the top spot with Central Connecticut State.

This season, the Bluejays have committed fewer than 10 fouls in 13 of 26 games and stayed under 15 in all but four.

However, against the Red Storm, the Bluejays racked up a season-high 23 fouls, the largest foul count in a game since Dec. 20, 2020, when they hosted the UConn Huskies and committed 24 personal fouls.

The Bluejays’ 23 fouls resulted in 29 free throw opportunities for the home team, and St. John’s converted on 17 of those shots from the line.

Creighton’s uncharacteristic foul trouble gave St. John’s a crucial edge in a game where every possession mattered, and the score remained tight for most of the contest.

And as the fouls mounted in the final minutes, Creighton hoped for missed free throws to create extra possessions and chip away at the lead; but instead, St. John’s capitalized at the line when it counted, using those opportunities to pull away and secure the win.

Moving forward, maintaining their low-foul discipline and keeping opponents off the free-throw line will be crucial for the tightly contested games the Bluejays are bound to face as they approach the NCAA tournament.

**#2- St. John’s won the game of scoring runs**

Basketball is a game of runs, and success comes not only from capitalizing on scoring bursts but also from minimizing the opponent’s chances to respond during inevitable scoring droughts. The game against St. John’s proved the epitome of this push-and-pull.

Throughout the entirety of the 40 minutes, various scoring runs added up to eight lead changes and fours ties, all leading up to a 79-73 St. John’s edge at the final buzzer.

But there were three noteworthy scoring runs throughout the game that ultimately ended in the Red Storm emerging victorious.

The first scoring run came right as the game started, when Creighton responded in a big way to a three-pointer by Red Storm forward Zubey Ejifor by going on a 14-1 run. Key contributions to the double-digit scoring run came thanks to Jasen Green’s six points and Ryan Kalkbrenner’s five, fueling an early 14-4 lead.

This stretch, along with other back-and-forth moments in the first half, produced

six lead changes and three ties, but St. John’s held a slim 40-39 lead at halftime

The second substantial scoring run came from St. John’s just over five minutes into the second half.

After triples from freshman forward Jackson McAndrew and senior guard Steven Ashworth pushed Creighton’s lead to five (53-48), the Red Storm countered with a crucial 8-0 run to reclaim the edge, 56-53 with 11:16 remaining. The run was especially significant for the Red Storm, as it coincided with a seven-minute scoring drought for the Bluejays.

Although the Red Storm also struggled to score after their 8-0 run, the Bluejays didn’t score again until they cut the deficit to three with 7:14 remaining.

Finally, a decisive third scoring run by the Red Storm, coupled with the Bluejays’ seven-minute drought, would seal the game for St. John’s.

As the game neared the final stretch with Creighton down by just two, a missed three-pointer by the Bluejays gave St. John’s the chance to pull away and seize control.

Burying a triple from the beyond the arc on its next possession, St. John’s started on a critical 5-0 run for a 66-59 lead. Though Creighton was given strong opportunities in the final moments, it was this game-sealing run that helped the Red Storm to secure the victory.

The moral of the story? A team can’t rely on sustaining a high shooting performance for the entire game. To secure victory, Creighton needs to generate more runs and avoid prolonged droughts, ensuring they can withstand the inevitable back-and-forth that defines competitive matchups.

**#3- Turnover troubles help hand Red Storm crucial edge**

In their contest with St. John’s, Creighton’s giveaways didn’t necessarily break the bank—but the Red Storm made them count where it mattered most.

With an average of 12.6 turnovers per game this season, the 15 Creighton committed against the Red Storm weren’t far off their average mark, especially given some of their higher turnover performances in earlier games.

But since their 18-turnover performance against Villanova on Feb. 1, Creighton has made a noticeable improvement, cutting their turnover rate in half with just six at Providence and eight against then-No. 11 Marquette.

Unfortunately for the Bluejays, the contest at the Garden saw Creighton revert to their old turnover ways. While the game against St. John’s certainly saw more Creighton turnovers than their last two contests, it wasn’t just the number that worked in the Red Storm’s favor—it was how effectively they converted those turnovers into scoring opportunities.

The Red Storm outscored Creighton 20-2 in points off turnovers, giving them a significant edge that played a crucial role in the outcome.

With both teams fighting for every point, Creighton’s turnovers proved costly. St. John’s took full advantage, turning those mistakes into valuable scoring opportunities, as despite the Bluejays trimming the deficit to four late in the game, they couldn’t fully recover.

Thus, to succeed in closing contests in the rest of their Big East schedule and beyond, minimizing turnovers and limiting easy points off those giveaways will be crucial for Creighton.

Ultimately, as the Bluejays prepare for their next game at home against Georgetown on Sunday, tightening up their discipline, capitalizing on scoring runs and minimizing turnovers will be key areas to focus on as they look to bounce back and make a push toward the postseason.